The Maricopa County Library Council Continuing Education Committee announces the 2003-2004 tour series.

The tours include:

Southwestern Bible College Library 2625 E. Cactus Road, Phoenix THURSDAY, Oct. 16, 9:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m.

The Dr. R.S. Beal, Sr., Library provides materials (25,657 books, 8,833 eBooks, 3,425 bd. periodicals, 20,405 microform books and periodicals), necessary to support the academic curriculum and mission of Southwestern Bible College. The College was founded in 1960, by the Conservative Baptists, and is now accredited by The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. The College's goal is to instill a biblical perspective in the life of students. Every student must complete 30 hours of biblical-theological courses so the collection is particularly strong in these areas. They must also complete 40 hours of general education courses and all the courses necessary to earn degrees in their chosen area of study (Biblical Studies, Business Administration, Christian Ministries, Counseling, Elementary Education, Secondary Education-English, and Music Education). The Library is a selective member of OCLC and a member of the Theological Library Cooperative of Arizona.

Marian and Ralph Feffer Library at Temple Beth Israel 10460 N. 56th Street, Scottsdale

TUESDAY, Nov. 18, 2003, 10:00- 11:30 a.m.

The Feffer Library has a collection of over 14,000 books. It is one of the largest Judaica libraries in the Southwest. It is open to the public. Temple Beth Israel's Marian & Ralph Feffer Library was started on November 9, 1942. The library moved to its present location in 1997 with over 10,000 volumes of books and videos, soon DVDs as well. The collection has an extensive Holocaust selection of books, reference, and non-fiction in all categories of Judaic life and fiction titles from mysteries to historical novels.

Basha Branch Library, Chandler Public Library 5990 S. Val Vista Dr. Chandler (Riggs and Val Vista) THURSDAY, Jan. 22, 2004, 10-11:30 a.m.

The Basha Branch Library is a shared use facility with the Basha High School, and is a separate freestanding building on the campus. Basha is 21,000 sq. ft., and provides a meeting room and a computer lab. The collection reflects branch coverage, with a special emphasis on curriculum related materials to successfully meet the school library needs. A strong emphasis will also be placed on SelfCheck and implementing service points versus standard circulation and reference desks. The collection will be fully tagged to take advantage of the RFID technology (RFID is radio frequency identification. RFID tags are miniscule microchips, half the size of a grain of sand. They listen for a radio query and respond by transmitting their unique ID code. Most RFID tags have no batteries. They use the power from the initial radio signal to transmit their response for enhanced charging/discharging processes.)

Mesa Regional Family History Center Library 41 S. Hobson, Mesa

THURSDAY, February 12, 2004, 9:30 a.m.

This is the largest genealogical library in Arizona. The Center is a private, non-circulating branch of the Family History Center in Salt Lake City. It is operated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and is one of the largest Family History Centers outside of Salt Lake City. Both member and non-member (church) patrons are served free of charge. Centers provide access to most of the microfilms and microfiche in the Family History Library to help patrons identify their ancestors. This extremely popular library has a large volunteer staff to provide orientations, answer some research questions, assist with center resources, and to order microfilm and microfiche from the Family History Library in Utah. Classes are offered on genealogical research topics. Librarians visiting will learn about FamilySearch.org and free access to the censuses of 1880 United States, 1881 British Isles, and 1881 Canada Census. With increasing public interest in genealogy this is a collection librarians need to know.

Desert Botanical Garden Library 1201 N. Galvin Parkway (Papago Park) Phoenix THURSDAY, March 18, 2004, 10 a.m.

This Garden Library opened in its present building Feb. 2002, and provides research materials for Garden staff, members, volunteers and the general public. The main emphasis of the library's collection is the study of plants from arid regions of southwestern North America and around the world. It also includes materials about the conservation of rare and endangered aridland plants, as well as the study of ethno-botany and desert gardening. It includes material such as botanical illustrations, botanical gardens of the world, plant taxonomy and nomenclature and edible/useful plants. After the library tour, walk the Garden grounds. (Attendees will not have to pay an admission fee to the Garden, but will need to be pre-registered for the tour.)

Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, Law collection 1700 W. Washington Ave. 300 Phoenix THURSDAY, April 29, 2004. 10 a.m.

The Law and Research Library Division is the core of the State Library which was established in 1864 as the Territorial Library of Arizona. The law collection is the primary legal resource for the Legislature, courts and Arizona state agencies with historical collections of Arizona's legislative bills, journals, session laws, statutes, regulations, current and historical annotated codes, judicial rules and Attorney General opinions, court cases and treatises. A major strength of the collection is the gathering of statutes and decisions from all states of the United States. The Federal Legal collection includes statutes, regulations, court cases and digests. Canadian statutes and cases and selected materials for Mexico are available. The legal periodical collection includes general law reviews published by law schools throughout the country and state. Most titles are bar journals available in print or microfiche. Workstations in the library provide access to electronic legal resources such as WestLaw Patron Access (Arizona Library) and LegalTrac. This collection has recently moved and has been reintegrated into the Research collection at the State Capitol.

Arizona — This collection includes current and historical annotated codes, official statutes, regulations and bills as well as session laws, attorney general's opinions, court cases and treatises.

Other States — This collection includes statutes and official court cases.

Federal Legal — This collection includes statutes, regulations, court cases and digests.

Foreign — Canadian statutes and cases and selected materials for Mexico can also be found in this collection.

Legal Periodicals — Legal periodicals, including general law reviews published by law schools throughout the country and state. Most titles are bar journals available in print, but some are on microfiche.

Electronic Legal Resources — Workstations in the library provide access to electronic legal resources such as Westlaw Patron Access (Arizona Library) and LegalTrac.

The George L. Campbell Branch Library (formerly the North Central Regional Library) Maricopa County Library District, 17811 N. 32nd. St. Phoenix. WEDNESDAY, May 19, 2004, 10 a.m.

The redesigned George L. Campbell Building is located on 32nd Street between Bell and Union Hills in Phoenix. The building includes the Maricopa Cou onty Library District Administrative Offices, the Arizona Agribusiness and Equine Center, Inc. (a charter high school), offices for the Maricopa County's Planning Department, the Flood District and the Maricopa Solid Waste Management Department as well as the George L. Campbell Library.

The George L. Campbell Branch Library currently offers over 175,000 materials in all formats. The library also offers Internet accessible public computers for both adults and children; "Second Editions", a bookstore sponsored by the Friends Group adjacent to the lobby where you will also find an ATM and an area for sodas and snacks. The building includes public meeting space, several small study rooms and a story time area for special programs.

Please register online at http://www.lib.az.us/eventreg by selecting Maricopa County Library Council Continuing Education Committee 2003-2004 Library Tours Cycle and sign up

If you do not have access to the Internet or have any problems registering, please call Sharon Vuncannon-Puckett at 602.542-3701, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. or e-mail svuncann@lib.az.us